

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL INTELLIGENCE

DIRECTIVE NO. 2¹

COORDINATION OF OVERT COLLECTION ACTIVITIES

(Effective 17 February 1972)

To promote sound and efficient utilization of the several departmental and agency collecting and reporting facilities in the interests of national security, and pursuant to the provisions of Section 102 of the National Security Act of 1947 as amended, the National Security Council hereby authorizes and directs that the following overall policies and objectives shall apply to the interdepartmental coordination of overt foreign intelligence collection activities (such as open broadcast monitoring and document collection) not covered by other National Security Council Intelligence Directives, such as National Security Council Intelligence Directives 4, 5 and 6.

1. The Director of Central Intelligence shall ensure that planning for the utilization of the collecting and reporting capabilities for intelligence purposes of each of the several departments and agencies avoids undesirable duplication and uncoordinated overlap and provides adequate coverage for national security purposes.

2. The Department of State shall have primary responsibility for, and shall perform as a service of common concern, the collection abroad, i.e., outside the United States and its possessions, of political, sociological, economic, scientific and technical information.

3. The Department of Defense shall have primary responsibility for, and shall perform as a service of common concern, the collection of military intelligence information. Because of the importance of scientific and technical intelligence to the Department of Defense and the military services, this collection responsibility shall include scientific and technical, as well as economic information directly pertinent to Department of Defense missions.

4. The Central Intelligence Agency may collect intelligence information abroad in support of assigned functions or as a by-product of the assigned functions, provided that this collection involves no undesirable duplication of any of the specific assignments in paragraphs 2 or 3 above, and provided that any such overt collection is coordinated with the Department of State or with the Senior U.S. Representative.

5. The senior U.S. representative in each nation or foreign jurisdiction where the United States maintains official representation shall coordinate in his area the collection activities not covered by other National Security Council Directives. Full utilization shall be made of the assigned duties, individual initiative, or favorable contacts of departmental and agency representatives.

6. Intelligence information collected abroad in accordance with the terms of this Directive by any agency in the field shall, wherever possible, be transmitted immediately to the field representatives of the agency primarily responsible for carrying out the foreign collection activity as delineated in paragraphs 2, 3 or 4 above, who shall then be responsible for its onward transmission, provided that the original collector shall not be enjoined from transmitting the information to his own headquarters.

7. The Central Intelligence Agency, as a service of common concern, shall be responsible for the selective exploitation within the United States of nongovernmental organizations and individuals as sources of foreign intelligence information, in accordance with policies, procedures and practices established as provided in NSCID No. 1 by the Director of Central Intelligence.

8. The Central Intelligence Agency shall conduct, as a service of common concern, monitoring of foreign radio and television propaganda and press broadcasts required for the collection of intelligence information to meet the needs of all departments and agencies in connection with the national security and shall disseminate such intelligence information to the several departments and agencies that have an appropriate interest therein.

9. The Central Intelligence Agency shall conduct the exploitation of foreign language publications for intelligence purposes, as appropriate, as a service of common concern. The Director of Central Intelligence shall coordinate this activity with similar activities maintained by the departments and agencies to satisfy their own requirements.

10. Departments and agencies carrying out the collection activities mentioned above shall recognize, in establishing collection programs, the needs of the other departments and agencies.